

## Fixing our focus

O love of God, how strong and true! Eternal and yet ever new; uncomprehended and unbought, beyond all knowledge and all thought. ~ Horatius Bonar

To accept that God exists outside the time and space framework as we know it renders any question of where He came from and what He was doing before He created what we know as the universe totally meaningless. ~ John McDowell

In God there is no was or will be, but a continuous and unbroken IS. In Him history and prophecy are one and the same. ~ A.W. Tozer

Believe God's Word and power more than you believe your own feelings and experiences. The Rock is Christ and it isn't that Rock that ebbs and flows-but your sea. ~Samuel Rutherford

Such is the triumph of the cross. It has made it possible for God to bless us in perfect harmony with everything He is, and everything He has ever declared Himself to be, and in spite of all that we are, and of all that He has ever said we ought to be. ~Sir Robert Anderson

Three questions about focus from the Lord.

- Who do you say that I am? **Luke 9:30**
- What do you say about My Word?
- What do you say about yourself?

Here is what the Lord says about Himself:

- <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in faithfulness and truth; <sup>7</sup>who keeps faithfulness for thousands, who forgives wrongdoing, violation of His Law, and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, inflicting the punishment of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations." <sup>8</sup>And Moses hurried to bow low toward the ground and worship. <sup>9</sup>Then he said, "If in any way I have found favor in Your sight, Lord, please may the Lord go along in our midst, even though the people are so obstinate, and pardon our wrongdoing and our sin, and take us as Your own possession." **Exodus 34:6-9 NASB**

- <sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations for those who love Him and keep His commandments; **Deuteronomy 7:9 NASB**
- <sup>2</sup> “I will go before you and make the rough places smooth; I will shatter the doors of bronze and cut through their iron bars. <sup>3</sup> I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden wealth of secret places, So that you may know that it is I, The Lord, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name. <sup>4</sup> For the sake of Jacob My servant, and Israel My chosen one, I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor though you have not known Me. <sup>5</sup> I am the Lord, and there is no one else; There is no God except Me. I will arm you, though you have not known Me, <sup>6</sup> So that people may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no one else. <sup>7</sup> The One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating disaster; I am the Lord who does all these things. **Isaiah 45:2-7 NASB**
- He is good and He does good- **Psalm 119:68**

#### What do you say about His Word?

- <sup>128</sup> Therefore I carefully follow all Your precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way. **Psalm 119:128 NASB**
- <sup>26</sup> He who leans on, trusts in, and is confident of his own mind and heart is a [self-confident] fool, but he who walks in skillful and godly Wisdom shall be delivered. **Proverbs 28:26**
- <sup>151</sup> You are near, O Lord [nearer to me than my foes], and all Your commandments are truth. **Psalm 119:151 AMPC**
- <sup>160</sup> The sum of Your word is truth [the total of the full meaning of all Your individual precepts]; and every one of Your righteous decrees endures forever. **Psalm 119:160 AMPC**
- <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me. **John 14:6 NASB**

- <sup>13</sup>And whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. **John 16:13-14 NASB**

### What do you say about you?

- But now, this is what the Lord says, He who is your Creator, Jacob, and He who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Since you are precious in My sight, since you are honored and I love you, I will give other people in your place and other nations in exchange for your life. **Isaiah 43:1-4 NASB**
- Since you are precious in My eyes, you are honored and I love you. **Isaiah 43:4 The Interlinear Bible**
- <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you. I give people in your place, and nations in exchange for your life. **Isaiah 43:4 Common English Bible**
- So precious are you to Me, so honored so beloved. **Isaiah 43:4 Moffatt**
- So prized, so honoured, so dearly loved, that I am ready to give up mankind in thy place, a world to save thee. **Isaiah 43:4 KNOX**
- because you are precious to me. You are honored, and I love you. **Isaiah 43:4 NLT**

### Fresh Focus:

- Fix your hope on Him.
- Set your affections on Him.
- Direct your heart to Him.

<sup>10</sup>For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have set our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all mankind, especially of believers. **1 Timothy 4:10 NASB**

Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking only at Jesus, the originator and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **Hebrews 12:1-2 NASB**

<sup>13</sup>Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. **1Peter 1:13 NASB**

<sup>8</sup>I have set the Lord continually before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. **Psalm 16:8**

<sup>20</sup>For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup>who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. **1 Peter 1:20-21**

<sup>2</sup>Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a female servant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until He is gracious to us. **Psalm 123:2**

<sup>1</sup>Then you will say on that day, "I will give thanks to You, Lord; For although You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me. <sup>2</sup>Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation." <sup>3</sup>Therefore you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And on that day you will say, "Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples; Make them remember that His name is exalted." <sup>5</sup>Praise the Lord in song, for He has done glorious things; let this be known throughout the earth. <sup>6</sup>Rejoice and shout for joy, you inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **Isaiah 12:1-6**